GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2659
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006
LOSSES IN PRASAR BHARATI
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prasar Bharti Corporation is incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to make Prasar Bharti Corporation financially viable and to augment its revenue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b): The role of Prasar Bharati is different from other private broadcasters and this organization does not work purely on commercial basis. The earning of commercial revenue is not the only objective of the organization but is only incidental to its activities.

(c), (d) & (e): A Committee was constituted on 30/03/2005 by the Government under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Information and Broadcasting for suggesting a viable capital and financial structure for Prasar Bharati to strengthen its functioning. The Committee has dealt and deliberated on the restructuring options available and submitted its Report to the Government. Its Recommendations are currently before the Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted by the Government to examine various issues pertaining to the functioning of Prasar Bharati.